

Applicants: Anna Marie Pyle and Eckhard Jankowsky
U.S. Serial No.: 09/492,954
Filed: January 27, 2000
Page 2

S 1.121(a) as follows:

On page 5, line 1, please delete "**Breif**" and substitute therefor,
--**Brief**--.

In the claims:

Please amend claim 1 under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b) by deleting the bracketed word or words and inserting the underlined word or words as follows:

--1. (Amended) A method for detecting the release of a single-stranded RNA from an RNA duplex which comprises:

a) admixing an RNA helicase with the RNA duplex under conditions permitting the RNA helicase to unwind the RNA duplex and release single-stranded RNA, wherein the RNA duplex comprises a first RNA having a first label attached thereto and a second RNA, [such] wherein said first label [being capable of producing] produces a luminescent energy pattern when the first RNA is present in the RNA duplex, which luminescent energy pattern differs from [the] a luminescent energy pattern produced when the first RNA is not present in the RNA duplex; and

b) [subjecting the admixture to conditions which permit (i) the RNA helicase to unwind the RNA duplex and release single-stranded RNA, and (ii) the first label to produce luminescent energy; and

c)] detecting a change in the luminescent energy pattern

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U.S. Serial No.: 09/492,954
Filed: January 27, 2000
Page 3

produced by the first label so as to thereby detect release of single-stranded RNA from the RNA duplex. *fv*

In the Drawings:

Applicant proposes to amend the Drawing Sheets (1/14 to 14/14) as indicated in the Letter With Proposed Drawing Changes attached hereto as **Exhibit A**.

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending in the subject application. Applicants have hereinabove amended claim 1 for clarification. Support for the amendments to claim 1 may be found, *inter alia*, at specification page 4, lines 1-19 and in the claims as originally filed. Applicants have amended the specification at the suggestion of the Examiner to correct an obvious typographical error. Applicants have amended the drawings at the suggestion of the Examiner. Applicants maintain that none of the above-mentioned amendments introduces new matter. Accordingly, upon entry of the amendment, claims 1-8 will be pending and under examination.

Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings because the description in the specification under "Brief Description of the Figures" for each of the figures does not coincide with the drawings. The Examiner stated that the informalities include the following:

- (a) The Examiner stated that in Figure 3, a label distinguishing Figure 3A is missing.
- (b) The Examiner stated that in Figure 4, a label